WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A polypeptide comprising a transmembrane domain near the N-terminus of the polypeptide, and having a length of about 185 to about 205 amino acid residues, wherein said polypeptide is essentially free of intracellular ITIM motifs, wherein said polypeptide has a molecular weight of between about 25 kilodaltons and about 65 kilodaltons.

2. The polypeptide of claim 1 wherein said transmembrane domain has an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

3. The polypeptide of claim 1 having a sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

4. The polypeptide of claim 1 further comprising an intracellular domain of a sequence defined in SEQID NO:3 (30 amino acids).

5. The polypeptide of claim 1 further comprising an extracellular domain of about 130 amino acids, wherein said extracellular domain includes at least a first putative N-linked glycosylation site and a second putative N-linked glycosylation site.

6. The polypeptide of claim 5 wherein said first glycosylation site is located within said polypeptide at a position defined as an amino acid position 95 to an amino acid position 97 and said second putative N-linked glycosylation site is located within said polypeptide at a position defined as an amino acid position 147 to an amino acid position 149.

7. The polypeptide of claim 6, wherein said polypeptide is further defined as a pharmaceutically acceptable preparation.

8. The polypeptide of claim 7 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable preparation is further defined as suitable for injection.

9. The polypeptide of claim 7 further defined as having a length of about 185 amino acid residues to about 205 amino acid residues.

10. The polypeptide of claim 7 further claimed as having an amino acid length of about 191 amino acid residues.

11. A natural killer cell receptor polypeptide comprising the polypeptide of claim 1.

12. The natural killer cell receptor polypeptide of claim 11 comprising the sequence of Fig. 1A.

13. A clone Y9A2 having a transcript LLT-1.

14. The clone Y9A2 of claim 13 further defined as comprising a sequence as defined in Fig. 3A.

15. A method for inhibiting tumor cell growth comprising the steps of:

administering a tumor-cell inhibiting amount of a pharmaceutically acceptable preparation comprising the polypeptide of claim 1 in a tumor-inhibiting amount; and

inhibiting tumor cell growth.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable preparation is further defined as a physiologically acceptable injectable preparation.

17. An antibody having specific binding affinity for a natural killer cell surface receptor peptide of LLT1 of claim 10, wherein said antibody is without binding affinity for a cell surface receptor peptide LLT2.

18. The antibody of claim 17 further defined as a monoclonal antibody.

19. The antibody of claim 17 further defined a s polyclonal antibody.

20. A method for reducing natural killer cell mediated rejection of a bone-marrow graft, said method comprising:

obtaining bone marrow from a patent to be a receptor of a bone marrow graft; and

treating said bone marrow to a pharmacologically active preparation of the natural killer cell receptor polypeptide of claim 10 to provide a treated bone marrow preparation;

administering a pharmacologically active preparation of the treated bone marrow preparation to said patient.

21. A cDNA having a nucleic acid sequence encoding a human lectin-like transcript (LLT1) as defined in Fig. 1A.